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Indiana Department of
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE ORDERS PUBLIC ADJUSTERS TO CEASE
AND DESIST MISLEADING ADVERTISING PRACTICES IN TORNADO
AFFECTED AREAS OF SOUTHERN INDIANA**

Indiana Insurance Commissioner Stephen W. Robertson today ordered a public adjusting business to cease and desist from transacting insurance business for ninety days. The Order came after Department officials learned that Disaster Adjusting was soliciting business in devastated Clark County through false and misleading methods.

The Department has been closely monitoring all licensees operating in the tornado-affected areas to ensure compliance with the insurance laws and appropriate and expeditious handling of insurance claims. Department of Insurance employees providing consultations to affected Hoosiers at Governor Mitch Daniels' "One Stop" Disaster Center in Sellersburg Saturday were provided a copy of a flyer used by Disaster Adjusting.

The Order involved William J. Watterud, of Elkhart; James E. Kalka, Jr., of Osceola; Brian Burgess, of Charlestown; and Disaster Adjusting and Appraisal Services, LLC, a corporation listed with the Secretary of State as having an Osceola address. The Disaster Adjustment advertisement stated in bold print "LICENSED BY INSURANCE DEPARTMENT." "Resident of Henryville" was hand-written on the bottom of the flyer. Neither Disaster Adjusting nor Brian Burgess, who delivered the flyer on behalf of Disaster Adjusting, holds any license with the Department.

"All areas of the Department of Insurance are working to see that residents of southern Indiana are not taken advantage of during this trying time. Today's order is part of the ongoing team effort involving all State agencies," said Commissioner Robertson. "When we see improper behavior by someone who is part of the insurance transaction, we will take swift action to stop it."

Today's order follows the Commissioner's 60-day moratorium against cancellation of an insurance policy in effect for any policy holder directly affected by the tornadoes.

The Department will continue to send staff members to the designated disaster relief sites to answer any insurance-related questions and will also assist victims in completing their claim forms, contacting their insurance companies, and reviewing their policies. For any questions or concerns, consumers may contact IDOI at **800-622-4461** or **317-232-1990** and should note on the call that it is regarding the "2012 Tornadoes."

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